

HOUSE BILL 493

Unofficial Copy  
R4

2003 Regular Session  
3r1506  
CF 3r2482

---

By: **Delegates Montgomery, Barkley, Bartlett, Benson, Bobo, Boschert,  
Bronrott, Cardin, V. Clagett, Dumais, Feldman, Gutierrez, Heller,  
Hogan, King, Lee, Love, Mandel, McIntosh, Menes, Owings, Parker,  
Proctor, Ramirez, Ross, Rzepkowski, Simmons, Sossi, Stull, and Zirkin**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2003  
Assigned to: Environmental Matters

---

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments  
House action: Adopted  
Read second time: March 18, 2003

---

CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - ~~Chesapeake Bay~~ Special and Commemorative License Plate**  
3 **Plates - Renewal Fee and Sunset**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a renewal fee for the Chesapeake Bay  
5 Commemorative License Plate in addition to the annual registration fee;  
6 providing the manner in which the renewal fee is established, collected, and  
7 distributed in connection with the registration plate; providing that certain  
8 moneys may not be used for certain purposes subject to a certain exception;  
9 providing a certain fee exemption applicable to certain vehicles; altering the  
10 termination date for special registration plates honoring State agriculture;  
11 requiring the Administration to make certain consultations with a certain  
12 organization; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to  
13 a renewal fee ~~for the Chesapeake Bay Commemorative License Plate~~ and  
14 termination date for certain special and commemorative license plates.

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
16 Article - Transportation  
17 Section 13-618  
18 Annotated Code of Maryland  
19 (2002 Replacement Volume)

20 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
21 Article - Transportation  
22 Section 13-619.2(a)

1 Annotated Code of Maryland  
2 (2002 Replacement Volume)

3 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
4 Chapter 251 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2000  
5 Section 3

6 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
7 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

8 **Article - Transportation**

9 13-618.

10 (a) The Administration may issue special commemorative original or  
11 substitute registration plates for any geographical, historical, natural resource, or  
12 environmental commemoration of statewide significance.

13 (b) The owner of a vehicle, or a lessee of the vehicle under a lease not intended  
14 as security, or a director, officer, employee, or partner of a business entity that owns  
15 the vehicle considered eligible by the Administration may apply to the Administration  
16 for the assignment of a commemorative registration plate under this section if the  
17 vehicle is included in one of the following classes:

18 (1) A Class A (passenger) vehicle;

19 (2) A Class B (for hire) vehicle;

20 (3) A Class E (truck) vehicle with a manufacturer's rated capacity of one  
21 ton or less;

22 (4) A Class G (trailer) vehicle; or

23 (5) A Class M (multipurpose) vehicle.

24 (c) (1) An original or substitute commemorative plate may only be issued  
25 under this section for a fixed period of 2 consecutive years after its initial issuance.

26 (2) The Administration may only issue 1 commemorative plate under  
27 this section at any one time.

28 (d) (1) In addition to the annual registration fee otherwise required under  
29 this title, an owner of a vehicle assigned a commemorative registration plate under  
30 this section shall pay [the]:

31 (I) AN ADDITIONAL INITIAL REGISTRATION fee set by the  
32 Administration when the new registration plates are issued to the vehicle under this  
33 section; OR

1 (II) AN ADDITIONAL RENEWAL FEE SET BY THE ADMINISTRATION  
2 EACH TIME THE PLATE IS RENEWED.

3 (2) (i) The Administration shall set the ADDITIONAL INITIAL  
4 REGISTRATION fee at a level that will enable the Administration to recover its costs  
5 under this section.

6 (ii) The Administration may [charge a fee] SET THE ADDITIONAL  
7 INITIAL REGISTRATION FEE AT A LEVEL that is sufficient to result in a surplus after  
8 costs are subtracted.

9 (iii) The Administration shall retain a portion of the ADDITIONAL  
10 INITIAL REGISTRATION fee that is sufficient to allow the Administration to recover  
11 any costs of issuing and distributing commemorative plates under this section.

12 (iv) Any surplus moneys remaining after the Administration has  
13 recovered the costs of issuing a commemorative plate under this section AND MONEYS  
14 COLLECTED FOR ADDITIONAL RENEWAL FEES may not be retained by or transferred  
15 to any agency of the State for any purpose.

16 (v) Notwithstanding subparagraph (iv) of this paragraph, the  
17 surplus moneys AND MONEYS COLLECTED FOR ADDITIONAL RENEWAL FEES may be  
18 retained for the purpose described in paragraph (3) of this subsection.

19 (3) The surplus moneys AND MONEYS COLLECTED FOR ADDITIONAL  
20 RENEWAL FEES shall be disbursed by the Administration to a nonprofit organization  
21 that is:

22 (i) Closely related to the geographical, historical, natural resource,  
23 or environmental theme which the plate commemorates; and

24 (ii) Designated by the Administration under subsection (e) of this  
25 section.

26 (4) No portion of the [fee] ADDITIONAL INITIAL REGISTRATION OR  
27 RENEWAL FEES may be credited to the Gasoline and Motor Vehicle Revenue Account  
28 for distribution under § 8-403 or § 8-404 of the Transportation Article.

29 (e) (1) The Administration shall adopt regulations not inconsistent with the  
30 Maryland Vehicle Law to govern the issuance of special registration plates under this  
31 section.

32 (2) Before designating any nonprofit organization to receive any surplus  
33 moneys OR MONEYS COLLECTED FOR ADDITIONAL RENEWAL FEES and before  
34 distributing [any surplus] THE moneys to any nonprofit organization, the  
35 Administration shall adopt regulations specific to each new commemorative plate  
36 detailing:

37 (i) The name and nature of the nonprofit organization receiving  
38 the money;

1 (ii) The relationship of the nonprofit organization to the  
2 geographical, historical, natural resource, or environmental theme which the plate  
3 commemorates; and

4 (iii) The plan of distribution of the funds.

5 (3) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL CONSULT WITH THE NONPROFIT  
6 ORGANIZATION DESIGNATED TO RECEIVE MONEYS UNDER THIS SECTION TO  
7 ESTABLISH A SCHEDULE UNDER WHICH THE ADMINISTRATION WILL TRANSFER TO  
8 THE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION REVENUE COLLECTED ON BEHALF OF THE  
9 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION UNDER THIS SECTION.

10 (f) The additional [fee] FEES to the annual registration fee required by this  
11 section [is] ARE not required for special registration of a vehicle that is exempt under  
12 § 13-903 of this title, or a vehicle with a special registration plate recognizing:

13 (1) The Maryland National Guard; or

14 (2) A volunteer fire department, volunteer rescue squad, or volunteer  
15 ambulance company in this State.

16 (g) (1) A special registration number as specified by the Administration and  
17 assigned under this section may consist of:

18 (i) Any combination of:

19 1. Letters; and

20 2. Numerals; and

21 (ii) Any design approved by the Administration that adequately  
22 reflects the geographical, historical, natural resource, or environmental theme which  
23 the plate commemorates.

24 (2) A special registration number or design assigned under this section  
25 shall be displayed on the registration plates for the vehicle.

26 (3) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL CONSULT WITH THE NONPROFIT  
27 ORGANIZATION DESIGNATED TO RECEIVE MONEYS UNDER THIS SECTION WITH  
28 RESPECT TO ANY DESIGN OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMEMORATIVE LICENSE  
29 PLATE.

30 13-619.2.

31 (a) In consultation with the Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation,  
32 Inc. the Administration shall develop and make available for qualifying vehicles a  
33 specially designed registration plate honoring Maryland agriculture.

1

**Chapter 251 of the Acts of 2000**

2        SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
3 July 1, 2000. It shall remain effective for a period of [6] 7 years and, at the end of  
4 June 30, [2006] 2007, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this  
5 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

6        SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Motor Vehicle  
7 Administration, in conjunction with the nonprofit organization designated to receive  
8 moneys under this Act, shall implement the renewal fee for the Chesapeake Bay  
9 Commemorative License Plate by January 1, 2004.

10       SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
11 July 1, 2003. It shall remain effective for a period of 7 4 years and, at the end of June  
12 30, ~~2010~~ 2007, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall  
13 be abrogated and of no further force and effect.